



Index	
Viewpoint	• Page 5
Chaplain	• Page 9
MWR News	• Page 10
Community Events	• Page 11
Sports and Leisure	• Page 14

The Signal



Friday, October 21, 2005

Published for the Department of Defense and the Fort Gordon community

Vol. 25, No. 42

News UPDATE

Town Hall meeting

There is a Town Hall meeting for all active duty, family members and civilians at 6 p.m. **Thursday** in the North Ballroom of The Gordon Club.

The meeting is hosted by the Garrison commander; suggested discussion topics may be sent in advance to buchholz@gordon.army.mil. Child care provided on site; reservation required. Call 791-3752 for details.

Flu shots

Eisenhower Army Medical Center is offering the flu vaccine to retirees and family members from 5-8 p.m. **Nov. 8, 9 and 10** in the Family Practice Clinic at EAMC.

Retirees and family members must present a valid military ID card. For details, call Jennifer Chipman at 787-5301.

General membership luncheon

A general membership luncheon hosted jointly by local AUSA, AFCEA and SCRA chapters is 11:30 a.m. **Oct. 31** at the Gordon Club.

Guest speaker is Brig. Gen. Randolph Strong, U.S. Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon commanding general.

Cost is \$11 for members, \$12 for non-members and includes choice of Italian grilled chicken breast or vegetarian lasagna.

For ticket information, call Robbe Ostby at 793-3500, Amy Tuschen at 791-7815, or Brenda Howard at 855-0099.

MOAA

The Military Officer's Association of America memorial service is 9:30 a.m. **today** in Freedom Park.

The memorial service is held annually to recognize those members of the GMOAA who have died during the year. Col. Ronald Bouchard, Fort Gordon deputy commander, will make remarks.

Awards ceremony

The installation quarterly awards ceremony will be held at 8:30 a.m. **Thursday** in the lobby of Conrad Hall. For information, call Linda Means at 791-1871.



CFC update

The 2005 Combined Federal Campaign concluded Friday.

As of Tuesday, more than 3,000 contributors had donated \$421,431.72, setting a record and beating the 2005 goal, which was \$360,000.

Soldiers strut stuff in Idol competition

Charmain Z. Brackett
Contributing writer

Standing ovations and cheers followed Staff Sgt. Ron Henry's moving rendition of "I Believe in You and Me" at Tuesday's semi-finals of the Military Idol contest.

The contest is being held at Fort Gordon's Performing Arts Center.

The 17-year Army veteran sang the song in honor of his wife, and the judges sang his praises after he was finished.

Debra Byrd, the vocal coach for American Idol, said that if his song had been recorded it would be one that people would definitely want to buy.

"You paced the song so very well," she said.

Paring down for Saturday's finals of the first Military Idol contest began Monday. After an a cappella round, the field was cut to less than half with semi-finals on Tuesday and Wednesday determining the five who would advance to the international finals at Alexander Hall.

The Military Idol contest started at the installation level with each Army installation sending one winner to the finals.

The semi-finals can be viewed at www.militaryidol.com. Saturday's finals will be shown live on the website starting at 2 p.m. Viewers may vote for the winner for two hours after the completion of the 90-minute show.

The winner will be revealed at 2 p.m. Sunday at Alexander Hall. The reveal will be available on the website as well. To view the webcast and vote, viewers must have an AKO account.

Sgt. Charles Dixon, one of the 16 semi-finalists, was excited about the competition.

"It's a great opportunity," said Dixon, who is stationed in Ansbach, Germany.

During Tuesday's semi-final round, eight contestants put their hearts into their music.

First Lt. Aida Green representing Fort Gordon sang Donna Summer's "Last Dance" and told the audience to think about the person they'd like to

take a last dance with.

Country singer and judge Michael Peterson said that Green looked at him every time she sang the words "I need you by me."

That eye contact and the emotion drew him into the song, he

said. "You got me," he said.

Fort Gordon was chosen for the first international competition for several reasons, according to Florence Newman, TV/Radio production officer for Soldiers Radio and Television.

Not only does Fort Gordon have all the right equipment needed to facilitate the taping of such a show, but Fort Gordon's people provide some of the best support to Army Entertainment, she said.



Photo by Steve Brady

Capt. Scott Willens, from Fort Meyer, Va., was one of the 16 semi-finalists who competed for a spot in the finals, Tuesday at the Performing Arts Center.



File photo

Training for the Signal Corps' newest MOS, 25N, a JNN equipment operator, began here Friday.

Signal Corps adds 25N MOS for JNN

Tammy Moehlman
Signal staff

With the introduction of JNN equipment comes a new MOS, 25N, which encompasses the skills needed to operate the new system. The new MOS was made official Oct. 1.

Fort Gordon is the sole location for training in the new MOS, with the first common core beginning last month and the track began Friday.

"This new MOS is actually an updated 25F, a switching systems operator/maintainer. In the new modular force, we are fielding new Signal equipment, the Joint Network Node, or JNN, as a replacement for the Small Extension Node, or SEN, which the 25F operates. So, the skills are similar, but the equipment is more modern," said Dave Kintner, chief of

Training Management Division.

The 25N Soldier will be entrusted with the operation of the primary switching equipment, JNN, by which all data and voice communications will move on the modern battlefield.

"This is a key role to allowing the commander to exercise command and control of units engaging with the enemy," said Kintner.

25N Soldiers, just as 25F Soldiers, begin their training with three weeks of common core subjects. After this point, the two groups begin equipment-specific course tracks. For 25N Soldiers, this involves hands-on training with the JNN equipment itself, followed by Warrior skills training and a field exercise. The second segment of training is 18 weeks long.

See JNN, page 12

Town Hall topics will include kids, schools

Charmain Z. Brackett
Contributing writer

Post officials want your input. "We want people to come who have ideas and want to make changes," said Pat Buchholz, the installation's strategic management officer.

A town hall meeting will provide that forum at 6 p.m. Thursday at the Gordon Club.

Some issues to be addressed include supervision of children.

Buchholz said there have been some problems at school bus stops in the mornings because children are left unattended.

She said re-zoning at the high school level and the status of a middle school will also be updated at the meeting.

Other issues include child safety and clean-ups in the housing areas.

Also, there will be an update on the Residential Communities Initiative.

Besides those limited topics "we're not quite sure what issues are out there," she said.

Questions may be sent in advance of the meeting so that if it needs to be researched, officials can do so before the meeting and have the answer ready.

Buchholz said the meeting should only last about one hour. Childcare will be provided; however, reservations should be made before the meeting.

For questions, e-mail Buchholz at buchholz@gordon.army.mil. For childcare, call Melissa Drinnen at 791-2701.



Photo by Tammy Moehlman

Three star visit

Lt. Gen David W. Barno toured Fort Gordon for the first time Oct. 13 as assistant chief of staff for Installation Management. During his tour he visited the 551st Signal Battalion's Company D barracks.

New pay system for DoD civilians

Kristy Davies
Signal staff

As the saying goes, change is inevitable – and it is coming soon for Department of Defense civilian employees.

The new National Security Personnel System will completely change the way DoD civilians are paid, given raises

and promotions.

During one of five town hall meetings held here on NSPS, Jo Ann Robertson, Civilian Corps chief, U.S. Army Medical Command, explained the reason for the new system, its advantages, how it will affect each employee, how it works and when it will be implemented.

"The purpose of the town hall meetings... is to begin the dialogue of understanding the new NSPS, how it's going to be implemented and some of the basic concepts such as pay for performance, pay banding and the additional flexibilities that we have," said Robertson. "The current system has been very inflexible,

a one size fits all, and no longer is responsive to the current needs in human resources. This is an attempt to provide a more flexible, agile and responsive system that will allow us to meet our needs," she said.

NSPS is designed to offer more opportunities to supervisors and employees by allow-

ing rewards and pay advances for job performance.

"(NSPS) is a system based on pay for performance," explained Robertson. "That includes the elimination of GS grades and steps and moves to a system based on how one performs versus longevity."

See NSPS, page 12

Freedom Park teacher excels

Nominated as Teacher of the Year for Richmond County

Charmain Z. Brackett

Contributing writer

Although she tried to fight it, teaching was in Amy Hillman's blood.

"I was going to be a police officer," said Hillman, a fifth grade teacher at Freedom Park Elementary School, who is one of five finalists in the running for Richmond County Teacher of the Year. The county teacher of the year will be named at a banquet Thursday.

"Everyone in my family was a teacher, and I was not doing it. My first week at the academy, I saw kids who couldn't read. They were 12 and 14 years-old," she said.

That tugged at her heartstrings and she gave in, following the path of her mother, a special need teacher, her father, a science teacher, her sister, a principal, her brother, a lead teacher and her grandmother, who taught in a one-room school-house.

Hillman has taught for 12 years, all of them in Richmond County. Last year was her first at Freedom Park Elementary School; she spent 10 years at Ursula Collins Elementary School prior to that. She was named teacher at the year at Ursula Collins as well.

Hillman's greatest goal is to get her fifth graders to learn how to think on their own.

She said she doesn't want them to be able to spout memorized facts just for tests and



Photo by Charmain Brackett

Amy Hillman helps students Kandis Zimmer and Damon Pinero identify fingerprints at Freedom Park Elementary School. Hillman is the school's teacher of the year and one of five teachers in the running for Richmond County Teacher of the Year.

then forget that information the next day, so she goes the extra mile in presenting lessons that will be remembered for years to come.

A science and language arts teacher, Hillman incorporates creativity into her students' work.

In recent studies on the body systems, children drew outlines of life-size figures. Then they placed inside them

drawings of lungs, intestines and other systems.

The anatomy lessons continued by combining science, math and a smidgeon of "The Apprentice" television series.

Children had to create a presentation defending their body system.

According to Hillman's premise, budget cuts would force the shutdown of one system, and it was up to the stu-

dents to defend that system and present a case for not shutting it down.

Students had to wear business attire to school and present a skit on the system.

Hillman's teaching methods require a lot of extra work on her part, but it's worth it, she said.

"I love doing it; it works. Going the extra mile makes education work," she said.

Service club makes cards for Soldiers

Hand-made cards bound for deployed Soldiers

Charmain Z. Brackett

Contributing writer

Fort Gordon's deployed Soldiers will receive a holiday card made with love this Christmas.

"I wanted to show my support. This has gone on for a long time, and I don't want people to forget about them," said Sharon Dodd, wife of Col. David Dodd, commander of the 93rd Signal Brigade, as she cut out a green construction paper Christmas tree and placed it upon a red background.

Some Soldiers from her husband's unit are deployed, and as an adviser to the family readiness groups in the brigade, Dodd said she knows the importance of the troops receiving remembrances at the holidays.

Joanie Bryant of the Fort Gordon Service Club hopes to get enough cards for

all deployed Fort Gordon servicemembers.

Not only did she enlist the aid of service club members, but the project was carried over to Freedom Park Elementary School, where students made cards.

She's also e-mailed friends in other parts of the country, encouraging them to make cards in their Sunday school classes and preschool classes.

Bryant said she wants to get the cards in the mail by the first of November.

The card making project was at the end of the service club's Oct. 12 meeting at the family outreach center.

In other business, club members elected Kathi Pope as president and learned about Army Community Service's purple box project from Vanessa Stanley.

The purple box provides an abundance of resources about ACS programs and how to access them.



Photo by Charmain Brackett

Sharon Dodd makes a holiday card to send to a Soldier overseas at the Fort Gordon Service Club meeting Oct. 12 at the Family Outreach Center.

Soldier sentenced for desertion

Marla Jones

Special to the Signal

A 63rd Signal Battalion noncommissioned officer admitted on Monday that he deserted his unit in Kuwait, disobeying a direct order to report for his flight back to the unit following leave.

Sgt. Steven Rouse told the military judge, Col. Donna Wright, that he also cashed checks at the Post Exchange, while knowing that he did not have the \$2900 in funds for those checks in his bank account.

Wright found Rouse guilty and sentenced him to a bad conduct discharge, six months confinement and reduction to E-1.

Prosecutor Capt. James Richardson asked for a sentence of BCD, confinement for 18 months and reduction to E-1. He argued that "an NCO does not desert his fellow Soldiers." Richardson said a good NCO is one who sets an example.

Defense Attorney Bill Cassara told the judge that

Rouse made the wrong decisions in dealing with his family problems. "He wants to start over and salvage his Army career."

Rouse made a statement to the court, and admitted that he should have gotten on the flight and joined his unit in Kuwait after his leave. He said "I was not thinking rationally."

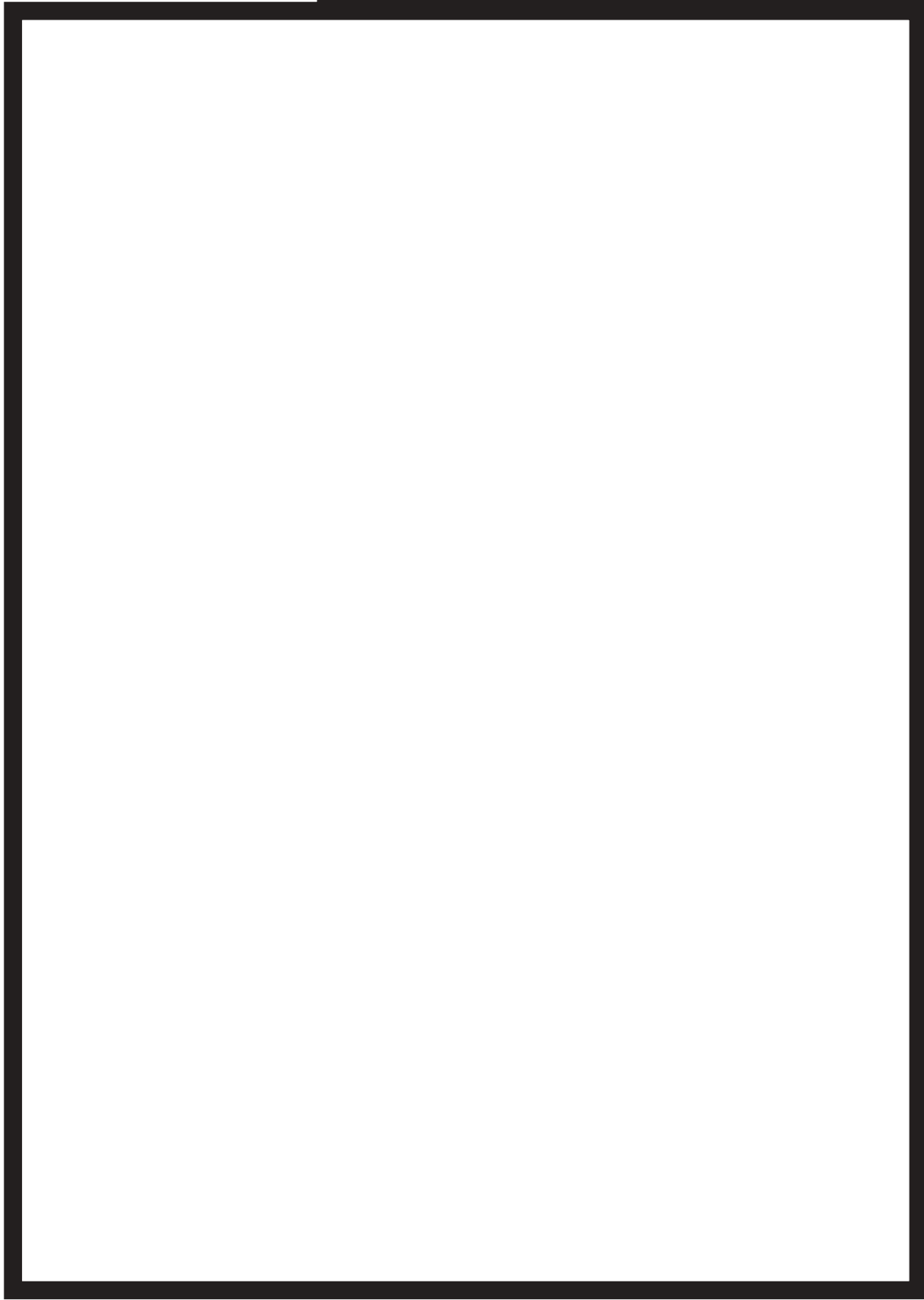
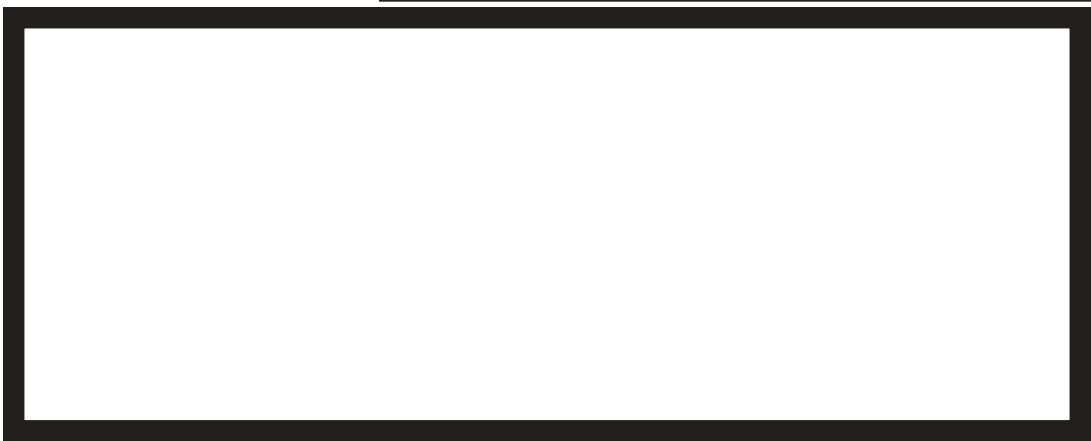
In his statement, he gave a detailed account of numerous marriage and family problems which led him to go AWOL and desert for more

than 60 days.

During that time, he wrote the checks for cash he said he needed for subsistence of his wife, five children, mother-in-law and sister-in-law.

In testimony, members of the unit pointed out that Rouse was needed in Kuwait, because the unit was short staffed for their mission of providing and maintaining communications for units deploying to northern Iraq.

(Jones is the deputy public affairs officer.)



Blind veteran dons uniform, saddles-up

Tammy Moehlman
Signal staff

A blind veteran put on a uniform for the first time in 32 years and saddled up a horse for a joyride at a local wildlife center. The ride was a way of fulfilling a wish for the veteran while he is in Augusta for rehabilitation training.

Jerry Bobbit was in the Signal Corps as a 36K, Automatic Test Equipment Operator and Maintainer. His Army career took him to Fort Dix, N.J., Fort Benning, Ga., Aberdeen, Md., Vietnam, back to Aberdeen, and to Bamberg, Germany. When he came back stateside in 1973, he was discharged for medical reasons. His eyesight was deteriorating and other ailments were developing as a

possible side effect of Agent Orange. Today he is only able to see bright colors, but none of his ailments keep him from saddling up and riding out.

Bobbit now raises cattle on his 30-acre ranch with his family in Millerscreek, N.C., and has a love for horses.

At home he rides his 5-year-old horse, Cherokee, who he and a friend, Barry Billings, trained as a guide horse. The horse recognizes stop signs and lights, and knows the routes to Bobbit's children's houses. He has a buggy that was made in late 1700s, which he rides around the small town. The area is also home to Amish families who ride the streets in their buggies along side him.

"I'm not the only buggy on the road, so that's why I'm so

comfortable on the road," says Bobbit. "Up there they get mad when they get behind the Amish, because it's slow, but then they get really mad when they get behind me, because I'm slower than the Amish... they pass me," he jokes.

Bobbit can't remember a time when he wasn't riding horses.

"I think I've been doing it ever since I was born. I think I was born on a horse half the time. My wife tells me, 'I think you like that old horse of yours better than you do me.'

"The only thing that keeps (my horse) out of the bed is her shoes are too cold," jokes Bobbit.

When Bobbit met his wife, he was riding a horse.

"So she knows me and the

horses kind of go together," said Bobbit. He and his wife met in the first grade and lived on neighboring farms growing up. They have been married for 35 years and have two children, Alica and Jerry, who live near by and help out on the farm.

"I'm always doing crazy things up there, or trying something different," laughs Bobbit. "And they're always having to come and get me straightened out." His family is very helpful with running the farm and supportive of his independence.

Despite his declining vision, Bobbit's wish was to ride "the biggest, black horse" he could find, while wearing an Army uniform.

His wish was granted by the help of his friend, Ron Worley, president of The Living Light

Village, Inc. The nonprofit organization works to assist individuals with permanent physical disabilities and their family, friends and co-workers.

Worley worked with Rusty and Kandi Eskew, founders of Greystone Ranch and Wildlife Education Center, Hephzibah, Ga., to fulfill Bobbit's wish. The ranch houses a variety of animals, from farm critters to jungle cats. The animal that played a special role on this day was Raptor, a 4-year-old black Parisian horse, from the ranch.

"She rides like a Cadillac," says Kandi Eskew, describing the horse to Bobbit before his ride. The horses are trained to not react to loud noises or other distractions.

Bobbit rode with his friend,

Ron Worley, Kandi Eskew, and E.J. Hardy, a Greystone Ranch employee. Their ride took them across a section of the 600-acre ranch and past a 20-acre pond, with the ranch dogs in step along side them.

Bobbit wore a battle dress uniform on his ride that was donated by Total Force and bore his name and a signal patch on the shoulder.

"They were very pro-veteran," said Kandi, about Total Force's generosity.

After the ride, Bobbit was nudged affectionately by his horse and returned the sentiment by stroking the horse's neck.

"I can't see much of her, just little pieces of her at a time. She is nice," says Bobbit about the horse. "This is really super."



Photo by Tammy Moehlman

Jerry Bobbit, an Army veteran, had a wish to ride a black horse while in uniform. Bobbit, who is legally blind, had his wish fulfilled recently during a trip to Augusta for treatment.

Soldiers ‘spark’ Sailors’ Signal interest during relief mission in New Orleans

1st Lt. Sharron Stewart
252nd Signal Company

Sgt. Robert Groszmann, a 25S, satellite communication systems operator/maintainer with the 252nd Signal Company, deployed with his company in support of Hurricane Katrina disaster relief efforts to New Orleans. While there, he didn’t prove to be the type of guy to give someone the shirt off his back, but he did give his Naval counterpart the patch off his sleeve.

Groszmann served as a team chief for an ANTSC-93D satellite van at the New Orleans Naval Support Activity. Part of his mission included supporting the 82nd Airborne Division, 82nd Signal Battalion.

While at the NONSA, Groszmann and Spc. James Haley, a team-member, explored the *USS Tortuga*, an amphibious dock landing ship home-ported in Little Creek, Va. According to Groszmann, the vessel was also used in Hurricane Katrina rescue attempts.

On the way off the ship, out of curiosity, they asked one of the guards about Navy satellite operators. It so happened that the Sailor pulling guard duty at the time was a Navy satellite operator. In addition he was also the ship’s armorer. Groszmann is also the armorer for his unit.

They were taken on a full tour of the ship from the stern to the bow, in addition to being allowed to view the satellite and radar equipment. Groszmann stated that even though a lot of the Navy’s equipment is different from what the Army uses, the Navy basically provides the same type of communications services.

It was during the tour that Sailors noticed Groszmann and Haley’s 93rd shoulder sleeve insignia. The 93rd Signal Brigade shoulder sleeve insignia is distinguished by a white, nine-pointed star, centered on a blue disc which represents the organization supported by the brigade – traditionally the combat



Photo by Tammy Moehlman

Sgt. Robert Groszmann, a 25S, satellite communication systems operator/maintainer with the 252nd Signal Company, traded insignia with his Naval counterpart while deployed to New Orleans.

arms. The outward points of the star connote signals transmitted, and the inward points the signals received. Contoured on the patch in triangular form are three orange flashes signifying the signal communications mission of the brigade in the traditional color of the U.S. Army Signal Corps. The nine points and three flashes represent the brigade’s numerical designation.

Groszmann said what the Sailors perceived to be lightning bolts are also the symbol that some Navy signal Sailors use, except Sailors refer to them as “sparkies.”

“They asked me, ‘How can we get one of those patches?’ I simply got a razor and cut my patch off and gave it to him,” he said.

“What was funny, we all had stories to tell about Barton Field, Vincent Hall and the Navy barracks which are right behind my company area,” he said laughing.

The next day, when the Sailors arrived to look at Army Signal equipment, they had hats in addition to patches to give to Groszmann and Haley.

Groszmann said the Sailors found it hard to believe the Army could fit everything needed for transmission into one HMMWV and only need two additional support pallets. Both services use eight-foot satellite dishes, but the Sailors found it interesting that the eight-foot dish Groszmann’s team used was able to be broken down.

Groszmann said that the ship pulled out of the port the very next day, for the five-day trip back to Virginia.

“I was awed by the fact that it, (the ship), was one piece of stand-alone equipment; it was totally self-sustaining. It’s really impressive how powerful our military is. We can turn around and help each other and also use our combined might to help our fellow Americans. Pretty cool,” he said.



MAKES A WISH

wish.org

strength

hope

joy

Provided as a public service.



Viewpoint

Information, Opinions, and Commentary

Honor comes to those who serve

Capt. Kevin Tuttle
Air Force Print News

PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. – Many of you have probably heard of the death of Airman 1st Class Elizabeth Jacobson. She was the first female Airman to die in the line of fire duty supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom, and the first Air Force security forces member to perish. She was only 21 years old.

Jacobson died while providing convoy security near Camp Bucca, Iraq. An improvised explosive hit the vehicle in which she was riding Sept. 28. She was assigned to the

17th Security Forces Squadron at Goodfellow Air Force Base, Texas.

I had the honor of being her family's liaison to the news media Oct. 9 at her funeral, since her hometown was in nearby in Riviera Beach. In addition to phone calls before the funeral, I got to spend about 45 minutes with Jacobson's father, mother and stepmother.

This was probably the hardest thing I've ever had to do in my life. What do you say to someone who has just lost a child? How does one sympathize without being able to empathize? I had never been to a funeral because I

had never had anyone close to me pass away.

So I knew working with the family that it would be emotionally very difficult for me. I cannot imagine the sorrow parents must feel after losing their child.

Arriving at the funeral home near Fort Lauderdale, Fla., the magnitude of the situation hit hard. I didn't feel worthy to console the family because finding words was so difficult.

However, something happened when I walked in to meet the parents. They were so thankful to have Air Force members at the funeral, including Col. Scott Bethel,

commander of the 17th Training Wing at Goodfellow; Maj. Kenneth O'Neil, 17th SFS commander; and Chaplain (Maj.) Peggy Wilkins and the honor guard from Patrick.

David Jacobson, Jacobson's father, told us stories about Elizabeth. He spoke of her love of the Air Force and her security forces duties; her desire to be a chief master sergeant someday; and the way she always volunteered to do the jobs no one else wanted. The fateful convoy mission was one such duty she had tried to get for a long time, rather than be in the guard tower where it was relatively safe.

The part that was so surprising to me was the outpouring of support her family bestowed on the military members, for the jobs we all have to do to protect this nation. There were no sentiments of bitterness or anger toward the military.

"People don't understand that if we don't win the war in Iraq, the United States will not exist," Jacobson said. "Elizabeth liked being a troop and was so proud. She made the ultimate sacrifice for our nation and the cause of freedom."

I felt rushes of humility and pride as they laid her to rest with all her mourners around her – seeing our honor guard

perform the ceremony, hearing "Taps" and hearing and feeling the flyover of two T-38 Talon aircraft.

I have never been as proud to be a member of the Air Force as I was that Sunday.

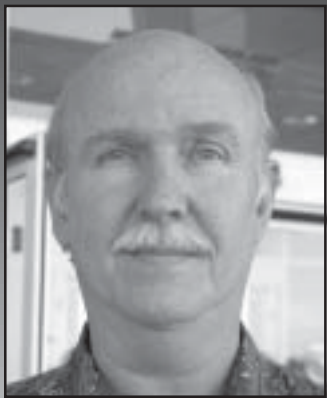
It made me realize that even though some of us haven't deployed, haven't directly supported Operation Iraqi Freedom or the global war on terrorism, we all play a vital role to protect the citizens of the United States.

We just have to do our jobs with honor and with the love that Jacobson showed for her job – and that her family showed for her and all of us who wear the uniform.

Feedback...

How should fallen Soldiers be honored?

By Tammy Moehlman



In every way possible, we owe it to them...buried in a military cemetery with honors, absolutely.

Ron Grundy
Retired military



I appreciate all that they do for us ...and we're all safe because of our (servicemembers) and I praise God for them and they should be honored and their families.

Kay Grundy
Military spouse



We give them a complete ceremony, but I feel like there should be something beyond that.

Sgt. 1st Class Winston Stoker
RNCOA



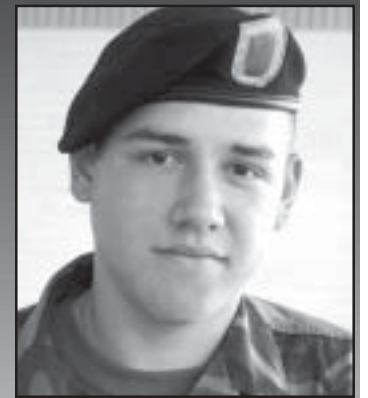
I wear my support the troops bracelet and I have a yellow ribbon on my car.

Carolyn Davis
Military spouse



I'm a very private person, so just a traditional family funeral. I don't care so much for the big to do and hurrah and that. Just to be able to mourn in peace without the glitz and glamour, that's how I would honor my loved ones.

Kwalekah McCaskey
Military spouse



There's Veterans Day and Memorial Day and days like that that we take out of our time to celebrate the people that died for freedom and everything else we live for.

Pvt. Joseph Zamora
447th Signal Battalion

Private Murphy 'CW5'

By Mark Baker



Broadside Cartoons 'Spouse Training'

By Jeff Bacon



The Signal

News Office
(706)791-7069

Nelson Hall Room 209, Fax 791-5463
www.gordon.army.mil/pao

Advertising Office
(706)724-2122

P.O. Box 948, Waynesboro, Ga. 30830
Ads may be faxed to **706-554-2437**

Commanding General: Brig. Gen. Randolph P. Strong
Garrison Commander: Col. Karen Adams
Public Affairs Officer: James L. Hudgins
Command Information Officer: Nancy Martin
Civilian Editor: Steve Brady
Staff Writers: Kristy Davies and Tammy Moehlman
Editorial Office: Fort Gordon Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 29801 Room 209, 520 Chamberlain Ave., Fort Gordon, Ga. 30905-5735
Civilian Printer: Citizen Newspapers, Waynesboro, Ga.

Publisher: Roy F. Chalker Jr.
General Manager: Bonnie K. Taylor
Sales Representative: Faye Watkins and Deborah Kitchens
This Civilian Enterprise Newspaper is an authorized publication for all personnel at Fort Gordon. Contents of *The Signal* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense, the Department of the Army, or the U.S. Army Signal Center. *The Signal* is published weekly using offset production.
The appearance of advertising in

this publication, including inserts and supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, or the Citizen Newspapers, of the products or services advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use, or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation, or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. If a violation or rejection of this policy of equal opportunity by an advertiser is confirmed, the publisher shall

refuse to print advertising from that source until the violation is corrected.

The Signal is an unofficial publication authorized by AR 360-1. The editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of the Public Affairs Office of the U.S. Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon. The Signal is published by the Citizen Newspapers, a private firm in no way connected with the Department of the Army, under exclusive written contract with the U.S. Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon.

The contracting officer serves as liaison between the civilian printer

and the commanding general. Letters to the editor must be signed with the author's printed name and address included.

Requests for use of information by other news organizations should be directed to the Public Affairs Office. Pictures not otherwise credited are official U.S. Army photographs. Army News Service and American Forces Information Service material is used.

Opinions expressed are those of individuals, and are not to be considered those of the Department of the Army or its agencies.

Distribution on post is free, and circulation is 18,500 per week.

Check out *The Signal Online!* at www.gordon.army.mil/pao

Soldiers pitch in for Habitat cause

Charmain Z. Brackett
Contributing writer

A Habitat for Humanity house in Richmond County is closer to completion after a group of officers volunteered Saturday.

Members of Signal Officer Basic Course 0705 spent Saturday morning preparing the ground at 2401 Luxembourg Dr. in Barton Village subdivision for a driveway and sidewalk.

“This is a definite case of many hands making light work,” said Gordon Meek, past president and current board member of the Augusta chapter of Habitat for Humanity. “It’s amazing with all these people we can get a lot done. It helps immensely.”

When ideas were submitted from the members of the class, 1st Lt. Chris Hall suggested Habitat for Humanity. “I love it. It’s fun to do,

and it helps somebody,” said Hall, who added that construction was one of his hobbies.

Even though 2nd Lt. Judy Hobson had already finished her 24-hour service requirement, she donned some heavy duty gloves and picked up a shovel Saturday anyway.

“It’s a profession,” she said of her Army career. “It’s not just a job, and people are going to follow you.”

Being a positive role model is important for Hobson.

The Luxembourg Drive home is about the 60th Habitat for Humanity home constructed in Richmond County, said Meek. About 20 of them are in Barton Village and nearby Gordon Woods.

Two homes are currently under construction, he said. In addition to the Barton Village home, there’s another one on Virginia Avenue off Peach Orchard Road being built.

There are several additional sites in Barton Village that are slated for Habitat for Humanity homes, he said.

While there is a regular group of retirees who spend their Tuesdays and Thursdays working on Habitat for Humanity homes, Saturday volunteers are important to the cause, he said.

“We are only limited by the number of volunteers,” he said.

Over the past five years, Fort Gordon Soldiers have provided a tremendous amount of help, he said.

“They really contribute,” he said.

Hobson said the group would be working with Habitat for Humanity next week and would be helping clean a waterway in the next few weeks as part of their volunteer effort.

“We’re working on whatever they ask us to do,” she said.



Photo by Charmain Brackett

From left, 2nd Lt. Karen-Nicole Knapper, 2nd Lt. Gabriel Brockman and 1st Lt. Chris Hall help ready the ground for a driveway at a Habitat for Humanity House in Augusta Saturday.



Photo by Charmain Brackett

Signal museum visits Aiken

Dressed in a World War II uniform Bob Anzouni (*at left*) with the Signal Corps Museum tells Aiken County Area 5 assistant superintendent Andy Reeves and Silver Bluff High School teacher Jim Jacks about some of the World War II items he brought to Silver Bluff High School Oct. 13. School officials dedicated a memorial walkway to veterans Oct. 13.

Theater spins straw into gold

Charmain Z. Brackett
Contributing writer

Barbara Lynne Feldman only wishes she'd thought of it sooner.

Last spring, the executive director of Storyland Theatre decided to waive admission fees for active duty military personnel and their families to the Saturday matinees.

"We really want to support Fort Gordon," she said. "We do things to help families get here."

On Oct. 29, the troupe's season opening production of Rumpelstiltskin will be at 3 p.m. at Augusta's Imperial Theatre, 745 Broad St.

In its 18th season, Storyland Theatre has created its own versions of classic fairy tales and brought live theater to the children of the Augusta area.

"For a lot, this is the first theater they see; for some, it will be the only live theater they see," said Austin Rhodes, who plays the role of the miller in Rumpelstiltskin.

Most of the shows are done during the school day.

Rumpelstiltskin will be presented to school groups at

9:30 and 10:45 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.

Field trips, however, were often difficult to get to for children at Freedom Park, said Feldman. Despite the offer of free admission to the field trip shows, the cost of buses and other incidentals were too much.

Feldman eliminated the admission cost for military families in April.

She said that many of the military families who attended had deployed family, and she was glad to be able to provide a few hours that could hopefully take their minds off their cares.

"Nothing would make me happier than to have 500 people show up," she said.

Rumpelstiltskin is the tale of a miller who puts his foot in his mouth by telling the greedy king his daughter can spin straw into gold. The Storyland Theatre version, written by Augusta State University professor Rick Davis, is a musical with songs written by Susan Frank.

Rumpelstiltskin is the season opener. Two additional



Photo by Charmain Brackett

Kryes Bailey, at spinning wheel, plays Rumpelstiltskin in the Storyland Theatre production of the same name. Carrie Anderson (standing) plays the Miller's daughter Kathryn. Storyland Theatre's matinee Oct. 29 is free to active duty military and their families.

plays will be presented this year. All Saturday performances feature free admission for military families.

The Emperor's Nightingale will be at 3 p.m. Jan. 28, and The Emperor's New Clothes

will be at 3 p.m. April 1.

For information, call 736-3455. The morning performances require reservations; however, reservations are not needed for the Oct. 29 matinee.

Playhouse recounts Anne Frank story

Charmain Z. Brackett
Contributing writer

Lucy-Sue Herron doesn't expect many dry eyes in the house.

"The very first rehearsal all of us were bawling," said the Kennedy Middle School seventh grader, who plays the lead role in The Diary of Anne Frank, which opens today at the Aiken Community Playhouse.

The drama about a family hiding for two years in a secret annex of an office building in Amsterdam, shows one aspect of the Holocaust under Nazi Germany.

The show stays as close to period as possible, according to director Nathan Greer, who added some of his own special effects. The entire production

will be done in black, white and shades of gray to give it an historical feel, he said.

"A lot of our historical photos are in black and white. The original film is in black and white," he said.

The show will be presented at 8 p.m. today, Saturday, Thursday, Friday and Oct. 29, and 3 p.m. Sunday and Oct. 30.

Tickets are \$17 for adults; \$15 for seniors 65 and older, \$12 for students and \$6 for children under 12. Tickets for students will be \$3 for the Thursday show only.

For information, call (803) 648-1438.

QUILT SHOW

More than 200 handmade quilts and quilted items will be exhibited at the

Riverview Park Activities Center in North Augusta this weekend.

Members of the Pieceful Hearts Quilters hold the show every two years, according to quilt guild member Kay Lawrence.

The show will be from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. today and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday.

Admission is \$4. For more information, call 202-1993.

JAZZ CONCERT

A free jazz concert will be at 2 p.m. Sunday at the Morris Museum of Art, One Tenth St.

A jazz quartet featuring Augusta State University faculty member Rob Foster will play classic jazz selections as well as original pieces.

For details, call 724-7501.

MASH unit arrives in Pakistan; more aid flowing

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON—A total of 190 U.S. Army medical specialists arrived in Pakistan Tuesday to provide aid to those affected by the earthquake that struck the region Oct. 8.

Members of Task Force 212 left Ramstein Air Base, Germany, aboard a Russian Antonov cargo plane Monday. The task force is built around the 212th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital. The unit also includes elements of the 160th Forward Surgical Team, based in Landstuhl, Germany, and the 123rd Main Support Battalion, of the 1st Armored Division, based in Dexheim, Germany.

The first wave of assistance, drivers, nurses and support personnel, supply containers, three five-ton cargo trucks towing generators, and operating room containers on trailers, deployed to Muzafarrabad, Pakistan, where task force members will establish an 84-bed care facility.

“We are part of a larger operation,” Col. Angel Lugo, the 212th MASH commander, said. Lugo also commands Task Force 212. “The 212th remains at a high state of readiness. The 123rd will provide a water-purification detachment, which can take water from almost any source and make it potable.”

Pakistani officials said the earthquake killed more than 54,000 people. Many thousands were hurt and about one million Pakistanis are homeless as a result of the 7.6-magnitude quake.

U.S. Army helicopters rushed to the area and began providing aid and search-and-rescue capabilities. Twelve U.S. helicopters are operating in the area with nine more en route. Around 400 U.S. servicemembers are providing ground support for the effort.



Photo by Art McQueen

A 5-ton truck from the 212th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital in Miesau, Germany, rolls into the belly of a Russian AN-124 Condor cargo aircraft at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, on Oct. 17. The truck is being transported as part of the disaster-relief response to the Oct. 8 earthquake in Pakistan. It's pulling a trailer fitted with a mobile, self-contained, two-table operating room that will be used in the relief effort.

Pentagon officials said U.S. Airmen have delivered 621 short tons of material to the stricken areas. In addition to helicopter deliveries, U.S. aircraft have planned for two air-drops of supplies to remote areas. Rain, hail and high winds have hampered operations in the region.

Two Army heavy engineer battalions have been alerted for deployment to Pakistan. The units will help clear roads, reinforce bridges and repair communications.

The USS Pearl Harbor has unloaded earthquake relief supplies and equipment, such as bulldozers, in the port city of

Karachi. The SS Northern Lights, a ship under contract to the Navy, has also delivered supplies to the region.

U.S. Air Force crews are helping other nations deliver supplies, as well. On Oct. 15, an Air Force C-17 transported seven Qatari soldiers, a Qatari mobile hospital, and 90,000 pounds of cargo to Islamabad International Airport, Pakistan. The cargo included two all-terrain vehicles filled with medical equipment, a five-ton truck, a generator, and a trailer.

“It was very wonderful to go,” Saeed A.N. Mohammad, a Qatari army pharmacist and nurse, said. He and three other Pakistan-natives on the team were anxious to get to Pakistan to assist in the relief efforts. The four expressed relief that their immediate families remained unharmed by the natural disaster.

For C-17 aircrew member Airman 1st Class Dan Gutowski, a loadmaster with the 15th Airlift Squadron from Charleston Air Force Base, S.C., providing support by airlift was “just another day,” but he was ready to help.

“I know the earthquake caused a lot of damage, and the Pakistani people really need our assistance,” he said. “I’m glad I’m in the position to make it happen.”

Since the quake struck, C-17s have flown 938,000 pounds of cargo, 182 pallets and 69 passengers into Pakistan, said Maj. Brent Keenan, the C-17 operations commander for Detachment 2, 817th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron.

(Compiled from interviews in the Pentagon; reports by Arthur McQueen of U.S. Army, Europe, Public Affairs, and 1st Lt. Erick Saks, of 818th Contingency Response Group; and an Air Force news release.)

10th Mountain Soldiers witness historic vote, work with Iraqi army

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON—Since Soldiers of 1st Squadron, 71st Cavalry Regiment, took over operations in the Khadamiyah district in western Baghdad Sept. 10, they’ve been conducting patrols every day, contributing to the security of Iraq.

Oct. 15 was not much different from any other day except that these 1st Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, Soldiers had an opportunity to witness a historic event – Iraqis voting in a democratic constitutional referendum.

“It was great to see the Iraqis get the chance to express their opinions,” said Pfc. Francesco Borsellino, of B Troop, 1/71 Cav. “The Iraqi army and Iraqi police displayed themselves professionally and were well disciplined. Their performance was excellent.”

Pfc. Warren Lewis, also of B Troop, attributed the performance of the Iraqi security forces to “all their hard work and dedication.” He said Oct. 15 was “a memorable time” in his life and could be “a turning point” in history.

“It feels great to see the Iraqi people get the freedoms they have been denied for so many years,” Borsellino said as he

came off of a security patrol the evening of the voting. “Any step toward democracy is a step in the right direction.”

“We take these freedoms for granted in the U.S.,” B Troop’s Sgt. Andrew Kisz said. “And it is uplifting to see that a regular practice to us, such as voting, brings the Iraqi people so much enjoyment.

“The performance of the Iraqi security forces was no different than my previous encounters with them,” he added. “Today, they were setting up a perimeter around the polling sites. They were disciplined and focused on the mission at hand.”

Iraqi security forces took the lead in securing polling sites while coalition forces played a backup role, assisting with outer perimeter security, officials said. “Seeing all the Iraqi forces coming together for a common goal was a good indication of how well they are coming along,” Kisz said. “It is very rewarding to see democracy in action in a country that has been denied such freedoms for such a long time.”

“A lot of things went right,” 2nd Lt. David Strickler of Company B, 2nd Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment, said. “The Iraqi army did an excellent job, and I was impressed.”

“I totally believe in what we are doing here,” Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Dennison, of Company C, 1st Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment, said. “We worked hard in preparation for the referendum. It has been awesome conducting operations with the Iraqi army.”

Soldiers from 1st BCT played a supporting role away from the voting areas.

Iraqi citizens want the Iraqi security forces to take over, Dennison said. “We need to let the people and the Iraqi army take on greater responsibility,” he said. “The more people see the Iraqi army and the Iraqi police taking on greater responsibility, the more confident they will be in them.”

“All the effort over the last several weeks to prepare for the election was way more exciting than working in a factory at home,” Pvt. Devin Hamilton, of Company C, 1/87th Inf., said. “Hopefully, this election will be a good step in getting Iraq squared away.”

The brigade combat team “has done a great job integrating with the Iraqi army,” Strickler said. “They have come a long way since we started working with them only six weeks ago.”

(Compiled from Task Force Baghdad news releases.)

Miracle of courage

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Roger L. Armstead

Chapel Center and Religious Activities

Two of the most necessary qualifications for success in life are enthusiasm and courage. No person who is equipped with these two weapons can ever be beaten down conclusively.

God promise Joshua that if he would be strong and of good courage, God would not fail nor forsake him. What more can anyone expect or need than these assuring words?

It is difficult for God to do much with a person who does not have courage and enthusiasm. The first secret of true courage is to be sure that we have some power within.

In other words, we must get acquainted with ourselves. Many of us bury our potential under a bushel by underestimating ourselves. We must realize that we

have God given freedom and privileges. How much power do you possess? This is a question that you should ask yourself every day, and one that only you can answer.

The type of courage we need today is more than the heroic kind. We need courage to be honest and sincere with ourselves, loved ones, family and friends. We need courage to speak the truth in love. We need courage to be who we really are. No one standing on the promises of God should be fearful, for God will never fail us, nor forsake us.

God tells young Joshua “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.” (Joshua 1:9).

Put your trust in God for God will never leave you nor forsake you. “In God we trust.”

Halloween alternative

Fort Gordon’s post-wide Protestant Sunday School, Protestant Women of the Chapel and the post chapel congregations are offering an alternative for children whose parents want to avoid trick-or-treating and other traditional Halloween activities.

Called a “Hallelujah night,” the event will be held from 6-8 p.m. Friday at Gym 4 on Barnes Avenue, for children 4 through 11 years.

This is not a drop-in event. Children should arrive between 5:40 and 6 p.m., when the program begins, and plan to stay for all the activities. No one will be admitted after 6:15 p.m. Children age 6 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

There is no charge; however, each family is asked to contribute a big bag of candy. Of course, no one will be turned away – candy or no candy.

Many people have raised concerns over dangers associated with trick-or-treating and with the roots and influences of many customs and trappings associated with Halloween. This event is in response to those concerns.

The night will feature singing, face painting, carnival style games with biblical names, a craft activity, food, and lots of candy.

Children are encouraged to wear costumes – especially costumes of their favorite biblical characters or favorite American heroes, however, no ghosts, goblins, demons, devils, witches, or any scary or evil creatures will be allowed. Volunteers at the door will determine the suitability of each costume. Anyone in a costume deemed to be inappropriate will have to change before entering. For information call 791-4703.



Photo by Spc. Gul A. Alisan

New shoes

An Iraqi girl gets her feet measured for a new pair of shoes by a Soldier at the Al Nafees primary school in Al Kafajyeh, Baghdad, Iraq, on Oct. 8. Soldiers from Company B, 448th Civil Affairs Battalion measured the children's feet and distributed the shoes.

Community Events

Field Band performs

The U.S. Army Field Band performs at 7:30 p.m. Saturday at the Aiken Technical College gymnasium, located on U.S. Highway 1 between Aiken and Augusta.

The concert is free and open to the public however, tickets are required. Tickets are available for pick-up at the Public Affairs Office, Nelson Hall, Building 29801, Room 214, on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Haunted house

The Gator Holiday committee is holding a haunted house from 6-11 p.m. **today** and **Saturday** between the PX and Commissary. Admission is \$3 for adults and \$1 for children 12 and under. For information call Tim Delancey at 267-8263 or 793-1831.

Trick or treat

The hours for trick or treating on post are 6-8 p.m. **Friday**.

Soldier Show auditions

Performers and technicians wanting to audition for the 2006 Army Soldier Show must submit an application by Dec. 20; auditions will be held in February or March.

To arrange a videotape audition and application, contact Steve Walpert at walperts@gordon.army.mil or 793-8552 by **Nov. 15**.

Retirement ceremony

The November retirement ceremony is 9:30 a.m. **Nov. 17** in Alexander Hall. For information, call John Pitts at 791-9536.

General membership luncheon

A general membership luncheon hosted jointly by local AUSA, AFCEA and SCRA chapters is 11:30 a.m. **Oct. 31**, at the Gordon Club.

Guest speaker is Brig. Gen. Randolph Strong, U.S. Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon commanding general.

Cost is \$11 for members, \$12 for non-members and includes choice of Italian grilled chicken breast with rice and broccoli, or vegetarian lasagna with green beans.

For ticket information, call Robbe Ostby at 793-3500, Amy Tuschen at 791-7815, or Brenda Howard at 855-0099.

Christian Singles

The Christian Social Association for Single Adults meets from 8-11 p.m. each **Saturday** at Westside High School.

Admission includes dance lessons from 7-8 p.m., and refreshments are provided.

Cost is \$5 for members, \$7 for non-members. For information, call Don Stephens at 737-4944.

Military Idol

The Military Idol talent competition is **Saturday**. Go to **www.militaryidol.com** to view performers' clips, and vote for the Military Idol. Finals are 2-3:30 p.m. Saturday; vote 3:30-5:30 p.m. Saturday. The winner will be announced live online at 2 p.m. Sunday.

Youth competition

The Augusta Symphony Guild and the Augusta Symphony will hold its annual Symphony Youth Competition at 1:30 p.m. **Nov. 12** at the First Baptist Church of Augusta. The competition is free and open to the public.

For more information call Sara Neal at 826-4706, or go to **www.augustasyphony.org**.

Singers wanted

The Signal Corps Band is looking for singers to join the band.

Singers must be able to perform the national anthem and a prepared piece in the style(s) that you perform best.

To schedule an audition, call Sgt. Adam Case, or leave a message, at 791-3113.

Native American program

The Native American Indian Heritage Month command program is at 1:30 p.m. **Nov. 9** at Alexander Hall.

To volunteer to help, call Sgt. 1st Class Iasha Singleton at 791-6644.

Storyland season

The Storyland Theatre is offering Saturday family matinees at the Imperial Theatre.

"Rumpelstiltskin," plays at 3 p.m. **Oct. 29**; "The Emperor's Nightingale" plays at 3 p.m. Jan. 28; and "The Emperor's New Clothes" plays at 3 p.m. April 1.

Tickets are \$5 per person or \$12 for the three plays, per person. Active duty military and their families admitted free to Saturday matinees with military ID.

Shows are recommended for children pre-kindergarten to sixth grade. For information call 736-3455.

FEW news

Federally Employed Women is having its monthly meeting at 11:30 a.m. **Nov. 9** at the Gordon Club. Mary Hammond will hold a Resumix workshop in the Magnolia Room.

The group's December meeting is at 11:30 a.m. Dec. 14 in the Victoria Room, when retired Maj. Gen. Janet Hicks will conduct the annual Christmas auction. For information, call Beatrice Sanders at 791-0022.

Disability month

The National Disability

Employment Awareness Command Program is 1:30 p.m. **Tuesday** in Alexander Hall.

The guest speaker is Michael Morgan, a retired Navy lieutenant and clinical social worker at Eisenhower Army Medical Center's Alcohol and Substance Abuse Program. For information call Tonja Deans at 791-4551.

German-Italian ceremony

The German-Italian Memorial Ceremony is 2 p.m. **Nov. 3** at the German-Italian cemetery next to Gate 2. For information call John Pitts at 791-9536.

Yard sale

The post Fall Yard Sale is 8 a.m.-1 p.m. **Nov. 5**. For information, call Jerry Swain at 791-3702.

Cleanup month

November is Environmental Cleanup Month on Fort Gordon. The days to clean up unit, billeting, departmental, training and common areas are **Nov. 14** to **18**; the time dedicated for cleanup of housing areas is 9 a.m.-5 p.m. **Nov. 4**. For information, call Sgt. Maj. Francis Thibodeau at 791-6483.

Massing of the Colors

The Massing of the Colors ceremony is 2 p.m. **Nov. 13** at the Good Shepherd Chapel. For information, call John Pitts at 791-9536.

Pet A Fair fundraiser

The CSRA Humane Society will hold the 2005 Pet A Fair at the Julian Smith Casino from noon-4 p.m. **Oct. 30**. Local media celebrities will judge a pet/owner costume contest, as well as other pet competitions including "Best in Show" for cat, dog and other small domestic animals. Judging begins at 2

p.m. For information call 261-PETS or go to **www.CSRAHumaneSociety.org**.

Town Hall meeting

There is a Town Hall meeting for all active duty, family members and civilians at 6 p.m. **Thursday** in the North Ballroom of the Gordon Club. The meeting is hosted by the Garrison commander; suggested discussion topics may be sent in advance to **buchhulp@gordon.army.mil**. Child care provided on site; reservation required. Call 791-3752.

Scouting

Boy Scout Troop 99 meets at 7 p.m. **Mondays** in Building 39115. For informa-

tion, call Nathan or Beth Varner at 793-3001.

Holiday gift wrapping

The Fort Gordon Service Club is coordinating holiday gift wrapping at the PX this year. A trailer will be set up at the PX starting the day after Thanksgiving and will be available until Christmas Eve; the hours of operation will coincide with the PX's operating hours.

All organizations, clubs and FRG's on the installation are eligible to participate in this fundraising opportunity.

The group is now taking reservations on a first-come, first-served basis. To make a reservation, call Joanie Bryant at 863-2931.

At the Movies

The Signal Theater is open Thursday-Sunday. Shows begin at 6:30 p.m. Children 12 and over and adults are \$3.50. Children 6-11 are \$1.75. Children under 5 are free. For movie listings and times, call 791-3982.

Oct. 21-27

Friday - The Man (PG-13)

Saturday - The Transporter 2 (PG-13)

Sunday - The Transporter 2 (PG-13)

Thursday -The Man (PG-13)

Note: Attendance at Fort Gordon's movie theater is strictly limited to authorized Post Exchange patrons.

EAMC marks pharmacy week

Pharmacists at Eisenhower Army Medical Center will use National Pharmacy Week to underscore the many new and vital roles they now play in patient care. National Pharmacy Week is Sunday to Oct. 29.

The evolution has been especially dramatic in recent years as pharmacists have moved beyond compounding and dispensing medications to become vital members of patient-care teams.

“Many consumers are not aware that pharmacists play a critical role in preventing medication errors, advising prescribers on the best drug choices, and working directly with patients to ensure they understand how to use their medications safely and effectively,” said

Capt. Paul Kassebaum, officer in charge of the outpatient pharmacy.

“Pharmacy Week is a great way to educate the public about how pharmacists can help them get the most benefit from their medicine,” he said.

During the week, the EAMC pharmacy will have a table outside the main pharmacy with information on managing chronic diseases such as diabetes, high blood pressure and high cholesterol. Pharmacists will also be conducting “brown bag” medication reviews Monday to Friday from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Patients can bring in all their medications from home to be reviewed by a pharmacist. The pharmacist will sit down with each patient and discuss the

proper use, potential side effects, and reason for each medication. For information call 787-8033.

Pharmacists are experts on the thousands of medications available, how each one works in the body, and the ways to use each one safely and effectively. Pharmacists who graduate today receive six years of education focused on medication therapy, and many pharmacists have completed postgraduate residency programs.

They advise doctors and nurses on the best medications, monitor patient’s medication therapy, and provide quality checks to detect and prevent harmful drug interactions, reactions or mistakes. *(From an EAMC release.)*

JNN

From page 1

“Today we’re primarily teaching the operator skills, but we’re also developing the maintainer training, which will be added in the near future,” he said.

Signal MOSs require very technical training and some communications theory. The Soldiers do hands-on training with the latest signal equipment.

“We’re developing several simulations that will assist in the training of the new equipment suite. In the case of the 25N, the primary simulation will be of the JNN itself,” he says.

The first 25N class has 20 Soldiers, eight or nine of which are noncommissioned officers from Fort Gordon, who held a 25F MOS and are now being retrained on JNN equipment. These Soldiers were chosen by Human Resources Command and will replace

their counterparts in the 3rd Infantry Division. The rest of the class is made up of new recruits selected locally.

“The MOS only became an official MOS (Oct. 1), so it hasn’t been publicized real well, nor have recruiters been able to sell this MOS until just a couple of weeks ago. However, the units which have converted to the new equipment, such as the 3rd Infantry Division, are very interested in the new skill sets. Their Soldiers were trained during New Equipment Training, which took place in conjunction with the fielding of the JNNs, and they’ll need replacements this spring as their Soldiers rotate, retire or ETS,” said Kintner. “The leadership here and at HRC have been very involved in planning for the initiation of the replacement stream.”

NSPS

From page 1

Instead of GS grades, NSPS will place employees into career groups, pay schedules and pay bands. Pay bands will be used to determine salary, career advances and will allow employees to not reach a salary cap as quickly as with the current system. A sample NSPS pay band structure includes:

- Level 1 – Entry level/developmental
- Level 2 – Full performance level
- Level 3 – Senior expert

The performance management system is designed to enhance the overall effectiveness of the DoD. Supervisors will be given more responsibilities and determine the performance of individual employees. Supervisors and managers will be required to work with employees to establish performance goals and expectations. NSPS will also allow supervisors to staff the right person in the right place at the right time, according to Robertson.

At the town hall meetings, employees expressed concerns about what pay band they will be in after transition, how NSPS will affect their retirement, priority placement, job promotions, supervisor responsibilities and funding for pay-for-performance and bonuses.

“It’s hard to determine (what to think) because they can’t even tell you what pay band you’re going to be in, which would be nice to know,” said Davey Story, behavior health at EAMC. “I just think the system is not developed enough to make an accurate determination on whether it’s going to be good or bad.”

NSPS will not change the merit system principles, veterans’ preference, due process, whistleblower protection, protection against prohibited discrimination nor benefits including retirement and health.

Full implementation of NSPS will begin over the next six months, with approximately 300,000 DoD employees being under the system by November 2009 and will occur through three main “spirals,” where employees under specified organizations will be placed into the new system at different times. Spiral 1.1, the first spiral, will occur from December 2005 to February 2006, consisting of more than 21,000 Army civilians.

Army civilians within MEDCOM at EAMC will be the first large group of civilians here to be implemented into NSPS with Spiral 1.3 in October 2006. The majority of remaining Army civilians in other

organizations on post will transition into the new system in Fiscal Year 2007.

“There are over 600,000 employees in the Department of Defense,” said Robertson. “(But) some of those employees are under other alternative personnel systems now (such as) the intelligence community and the laboratory demonstration.”

According to Robertson, employees within the current system will transition into NSPS with their current job descriptions, but new job descriptions will be much more “generic” and “broad.”

The DoD believes there are many benefits to the new personnel system.

“(NSPS will) allow us to have a more flexible system, a system that will allow managers and employees to attract and retain talent that we need and allow them to progress and achieve positions with increasing responsibilities,” added Robertson. “I think it will end up with more satisfaction from the work force and they will see that they are being rewarded for the performance and the job that they’re doing.”

Although there is much optimism with NSPS, there are some challenges to face.

“We are making a major cultural change going from a system that is linked to seniority and longevity (and) moving into a performance-based system where it’s linked to one’s pay,” explained Robertson. “Employees will have to gain confidence and credibility in the system.”

“Managing the budget and managing cost is also a major challenge and certainly training the workforce will be a challenge,” she added.

Pay schedules and additional information on pay bands will be available in the near future.

“After the final regulations are published, by the end of (October), additional information will be coming out,” explained Robertson.

Robertson believes NSPS is a positive move towards making the DoD personnel system more like the structure of public corporations. Pay for performance is intended to reward the employees who work hard every day.

“Personnel should view NSPS as an opportunity for change,” said Robertson. “NSPS is an opportunity to move into a modern, more responsive system and (they) should take the opportunity to learn as much about it as possible as early as possible.”

To learn more about NSPS and its implementation, go to www.cpm.osd.mil/nsps or www.cpol.army.mil.

Red Ribbon Week begins Sunday

National Red Ribbon Week is Sunday through Oct. 31.

The National Family Partnership organized the first Nationwide Red Ribbon Campaign in 1988. Since that time, the campaign has reached millions of U.S. children.

The national Red Ribbon campaign is an annual event that is celebrated by states, communities and nations around the world. The purpose is to focus attention on the negative influence that substance abuse brings upon schools, family relation-

ships, workplaces and neighborhoods.

The theme for this year is “Warrior Pride – Real Heroes Don’t Use Drugs!”

STORY BEHIND THE SYMBOL
Enrique “Kiki” Camarena grew up in a dirt-floored house with hopes and dreams of making a difference. Camarena worked his way through college, served in the Marines and became a police officer. When he decided to join the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, his mother tried to talk him out it.

“I can’t do this,” he told her. “I’m only one person, but I want to make a difference.”

The DEA sent Camarena to work undercover in Mexico investigating a major drug cartel believed to include officers in the Mexican army, police and government.

On Feb. 7, 1985, the 37-year-old Camarena left his office to meet his wife for lunch. Five men appeared at the agent’s side and shoved him in a car. One month later, Camarena’s body was found in a shallow grave.

He had been tortured to death.

In honor of Camarena’s memory and his battle against illegal drugs, friends and neighbors began to wear red badges of satin. Parents, sick of the destruction of alcohol and other drugs, had begun forming coalitions.

Some of these new coalitions took Camarena as their model and embraced his belief that one person can make a difference. These coalitions also adopted the symbol of Camarena’s memory, the red ribbon.



Photo by Kristy Davies

Going down

As part of a fun day with the Sea Cadets, Tony Dixon, a student at North Augusta Middle School and a Lead Cadet with the program, rappels “Aussie” style down the Youth Challenge Academy rappel tower here. The Sea Cadet program is sponsored by the U.S. Navy and is open to kids ages 11 to 18. Several of the cadets rappelled multiple times off of the two sides of the tower Saturday. “It’s a good, positive program that instills discipline and teaches the kids about teamwork and camaraderie,” said Navy Lt. Bob Riffe, commanding officer of the Sea Cadet Corps in the Augusta area.

Museum rolls through post

Charmain Z. Brackett
Contributing writer

As aficionados of Miller High Life beer, Gary Smith and Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Olsen didn't mind a two-hour delay in getting to see the Miller High Life Cruiser Sunday.

The cruiser, a beer museum on wheels, left Fort Stewart, Ga. later than expected on Sunday and arrived around 2 p.m.

Smith and Olsen had arrived at noon to see the bus, but left and returned about 90 minutes later.

"It was pretty neat," said Smith after passing through the exhibit

The original Miller High Life Cruiser first hit the road in 1954. Fifty years later in 2004, the company re-introduced the cruiser. The current cruiser is a replica of the original bus. It is 35-feet long and is transported to events on an 18-wheeler.

Inside the bus is a mini-mu-



Photo by Charmain Brackett

The Miller High Life Cruiser was in the parking lot of the Class Six store Sunday. The bus boasts photographs and advertisements inside the museum on wheels. The Miller Brewing Company is celebrating its 150th anniversary this year.

seum featuring a classic bar with a collection of Miller High Life bottles dating from 1903 and a selection of cans dating from 1946.

Across the aisle from the bar are photographs, advertisements and other memorabilia about the beer.

The tour through the bus pro-

vided some trivia for Olsen, who said he found it interesting that the company still continued to manufacture a product during prohibition in the 1920s.

"They stopped making beer and made malt beverages and soft drinks," he said.

Smith said he thought the old cans were interesting.

The Miller Brewing Co. is celebrating its 150th anniversary this year, and the bus will visit more than 20 states before the end of the year. Miller High Life beer has been around since 1903.

The silver, red and white bus sports the beer's logo and nickname of "the champagne of beers."



Photo by Sarah K. Crisp

Smile

The Fort Gordon Veterinary Treatment Facility has a number of pets available for immediate adoption including this dog, a Chihuahua and possibly Jack Russell mix. She gets along well with both children and adults. To see her and others available for adoption at the vet clinic, stop by Building 500 on North Range Road Monday through Friday 8 a.m.-4 p.m., or call 787-3815 for information.

Army to provide on-line language training

The Army will make foreign-language training available at no cost to all active Army, National Guard, Reservists and Department of Army civilians worldwide through its Distributed Learning System's Army e-Learning, under the Program Executive Office Enterprise Information Systems.

In the past, the high tempo of operations, limited resident school capacity and the scarcity of language training opportunities have worked against the Army's goal of fielding a force capable of engaging in basic communications with the local population in deployed areas.

Now, with the help of Fairfield Language Technologies, creator of the computer-based language immersion program Rosetta Stone®, the Army anticipates it

will be able to significantly increase basic foreign language skill-level across the force.

"Critical foreign language capability and skills are increasingly important to our Army. Rosetta Stone provides the Army with an immediate, interactive language training tool to train our Soldiers, leaders and civilians for operational deployments and professional development," Brig. Gen. James M. Milano, Director of Training, Army G-3/5/7.

Rosetta Stone provides 26 state-of-the-art language courses through Army e-Learning. Access to Rosetta Stone will be available within 30 days. Army Knowledge Online provides single sign-on access for Army e-Learning.

(From a U.S. Army news release.)

Sports & Leisure

Sports UPDATE

Golf tournament

The Christmas House benefit golf tournament is **Saturday** at Gordon Lakes. Cost is \$45 and includes lunch.

Lunch begins at 11:30 a.m.; shotgun start at 1 p.m. All proceeds will be donated to the Fort Gordon Christmas House. For information, call Ashley Goodrum at 791-9322.

Swim lessons

Winter swim lessons begin **Nov. 5** at the indoor pool, and are held Saturday mornings.

Cost is \$25 for four lessons, \$15 for two lessons, active duty servicemembers are free. Register at the pool, or call 791-3034 for information.

Ordnance Corps run

The 2005 Ordnance Corps 5K Run starts at 9 a.m. **Nov. 5** at Fisher Hall on Rice Road.

Cost is \$12 before Sunday; \$15 afterwards. Proceeds benefit Christmas House. For information, call Staff Sgt. Tomika Robinson at 791-4004.

Cyclocross race

Cyclocross, a unique European cycling discipline likened to a steeplechase on bicycles, will make its Augusta debut at 10 a.m. **Nov. 6** at the Augusta State University sports complex on Wrightsboro Road.

The race is the fourth in the statewide Maxxis Georgia Cross series. For information, call 726-3992.

Big Buck contest

Outdoor Recreation's Big Buck Contest runs through January 2006 during the hunting season.

Hunters with a Fort Gordon hunting license can register both bucks for the year by entering once.

Cost is \$10 for FGSC members and \$20 for non-members.

First place wins a \$300 gift certificate and a free mount.

Registration will be at the Tactical Advantage Sportsman Complex, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday to Friday and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday. For information call 791-5078/3317.

Fishing tournament

A Big Bass tournament will be held **Sunday** at Butler Reservoir.

Tournament hours are from daylight to noon. The event is open to all ID card holders and members of the public with a Fort Gordon fishing license guest permit. Permits will be available for purchase at time of registration for \$20 per person and \$10 for FGSC members with a \$5 Big Fish Pot.

There's a \$100 award for first place and a \$50 award for second. For information call 791-5078/3317.

Paintball course

The Paintball course behind The Courtyard is open 3 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. Saturday and 1 p.m. Sunday, each day until dark.

Group rates available; call 228-5540 for more information.

Bike enthusiasts Tour de Fort

Kristy Davies

Signal staff

More than 100 people participated in the third annual Tour de Fort bicycle race held here Saturday.

The 12-hour endurance road race was held on a 15-mile loop around Range Road and North Range Road. A Family Fun Ride consisted of an 11-mile course of the main post area and a one-mile family walk and ride was held at the event headquarters on Range Road.

"During the Tour de France of 2003, the commanding general of Fort Gordon wanted a Tour de Fort with the host directorate being the (Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation)," explained Bill Browning, director of Sports and Fitness with DMWR. "This was our third race and was a great success."

Proceeds from the race will be used for DMWR programs on post.

Tour de Fort is open to the public in addition to military personnel. About 60 bicycling enthusiasts took to the roads for the endurance race, and there were about 80 participants in the family rides.

Families rode across the finish line with their children in bike trailers attached.

"We just took up bike riding and were looking for fun rides to participate in," said Scott Alexander of Augusta, with a

smile. Alexander, his wife, Valerie, and their little girl, Katie, were happy to participate in Tour de Fort and had learned about the event through a local bike shop.

A children's bicycle rodeo sponsored by State Farm Insurance was held at the annual event. The rodeo taught children basic riding techniques and how to maneuver a bike around cones. Other activities included pony rides, a disc jockey and a bicycle drawing.

Prizes were given out at the end of the race. The top three teams received trophies, top three males and females received trophies and the top male and female received a \$50 check plus a free entry for the 2006 Tour de Fort race.

The male and female winners are: 2nd Lt. Michelle Arnold, female solo; Tammy Pruitt, second place; Valerie Karrasch, third place; retired Master Gunner Sgt. Gregory Somerville, male solo; Jeff Stoddard, second place; and Doyce Johnson, third.

For the team competition Maj. Dave Simmons, Jeff May, Kirk Garin and William Laddy won first place. Mike Gequevedo, Charlest Parton, Dave Willis and Steve Redman won second place, while Jeffrey Starke, Arnold Newman, Leonard Lewis and Josh Kutlin took third.



Photos by Kristy Davies



(Above) During the third annual Tour de Fort bicycle race, Staff Sgt. Michael Heller, Regimental Noncommissioned Officer Academy, coaches his 6-year-old son, Perrin, at a bike rodeo. Other activities at the annual event included pony rides, a disc jockey and a bicycle drawing. (Left) 2nd Lt. Julio Reyna, 442nd Signal Battalion, completes a lap during the 12-hour endurance race held Saturday.

Nemechek fights back to finish fourth

David Ferroni

Army News Service

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Overcoming adversity has been the trademark of Joe Nemechek and the U.S. Army Team. And Saturday night at Lowe's Motor Speed-

way the 01 team's comeback was even more dramatic as Nemechek battled back from the rear of the field to finish fourth in the UAW-GM Quality 500.

Twice during the 336-lap event the Army of One team was forced to replace a battery due to an electrical prob-

lem with the Army Chevrolet. And following each replacement, Nemechek fell a lap down and was relegated to the back of the pack.

"You talk about fight and spirit, we had it tonight," said Nemechek, who retook the lead on Lap 320 and held the front-running position until eventual race winner Jimmie Johnson passed him with 12 laps remaining.

"My car was a little tight in the middle of the corner and Jimmie was able to take advantage of that," Nemechek continued. "What feels good is that we put ourselves in position to win. That's what makes it fun. We're ready to keep on going and get that first win of the season for our Soldiers."

Nemechek, who was the only non-Chase driver to finish in the top five, made a gain in the Nextel Cup driver point standings. He jumped two positions — from 15th to 13th — and is six points out of 12th and 17 out of 11th.

"After not making the Chase, our goal was to finish 11th and that is now within our grasp," offered Nemechek.

Nemechek, who ran up front on the tricky 1.5-mile oval until his alternator started to malfunction near the 200-lap mark, was positioned in 30th place with 80 laps remaining. From that point of the race it was a combination of savvy driving, calculated pit strategy by crew chief Ryan Pemberton and excellent pit stops that propelled the 01 Chevrolet to the front.

"I can't say enough about this entire

U.S. Army team," said Nemechek. "The pit crew was incredible tonight, we gained on almost every stop and towards the end of the race when we really needed a couple of quick stops, the guys came through with flying colors."

A decision by Pemberton not to pit following a caution on Lap 268 put Nemechek back in contention. While the majority of the teams pitted for fresh rubber, Nemechek stayed out and moved into ninth place when the race was restarted on Lap 275. He remained in the top 10 for the remainder of the event.

The 505-mile race, which went into overtime with a green-white-checked restart, saw numerous cautions due to blown tires.

"It didn't seem like the tires would go for more than 30 laps," explained Nemechek. "We were all abusing the tires. I've been in these situations before and I was just trying to run the pace I thought my tires would withstand. You would see somebody go by you and pretty soon they would be in the fence. It was like Bristol, survival of the fittest."

"It was a great team effort tonight," Nemechek continued. "Not only from the guys here at the race, but everybody back at the shop who built this fast racecar."

The next stop for Nemechek and the U.S. Army team will be Sunday at Martinsville (Va.) Speedway.

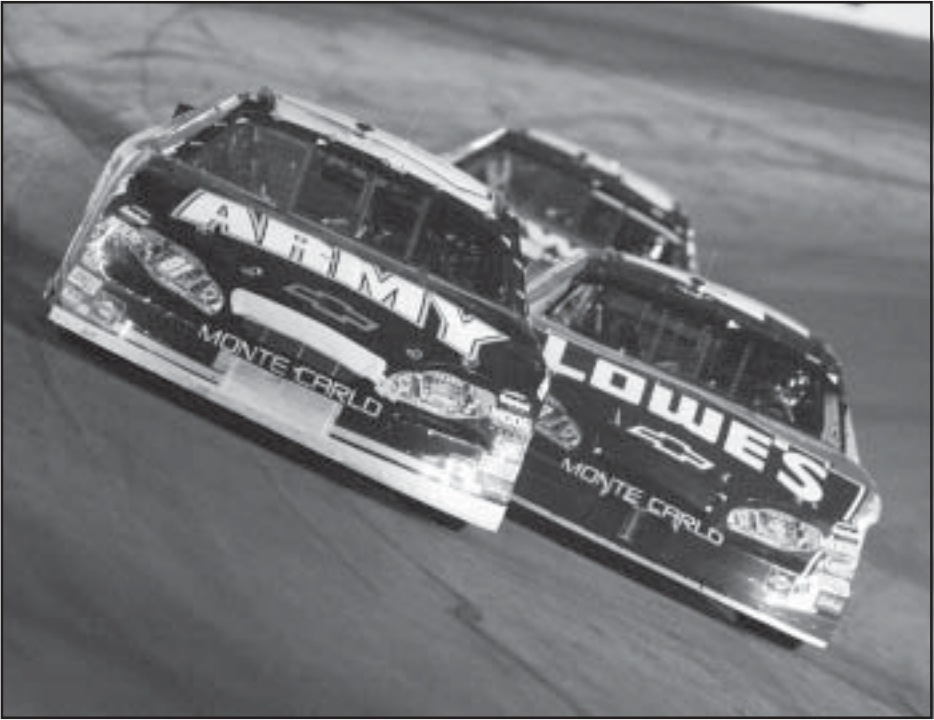


Photo by Cameras In Action

Joe Nemechek's 01 Army Chevrolet leads eventual race winner Jimmie Johnson down the stretch at Charlotte Saturday night. The Army team battled back through multiple mechanical problems and led 11 laps, ultimately fading to a fourth-place finish at the end of the crash-filled race.



Photo courtesy Army News Service

Saints thanks

New Orleans Saints' owner Tom Benson thanks Soldiers from Brooke Army Medical Center, San Antonio, Texas, for attending practice at the Alamodome. Wounded warriors sat center field Oct. 7 after the New Orleans Saints invited BAMC's amputee care patients to attend practice at the Alamodome. The Soldiers had an up-close and personal view of the work that goes into game day.

Flag football standings

As of Oct. 13

Teams	W	L	Teams	W	L
Blue Division					
31st Intel Squadron	10	2	Co. C, 73rd Ord. Bn.	6	5
Co. A, 67th Sig. Bn.	9	3	Co. D, 551st Sig. Bn.	2	8
Navy IOC	10	3	Co. B, 551st Sig. Bn.	8	3
252nd Sig. Co.	5	8	Marines Det.	4	8
EAMC	8	6	Task Force 201st	1	10
RNCOA	4	9			
Co. A, 551st Sig. Bn.	8	4	Morning Division		
Co. B, 67th Sig. Bn.	1	19	Co. C, 73rd Ord. Bn.	4	2
HHC, 93rd Sig. Bde.	3	10	Co. D, 551st Sig. Bn.	3	3
Co. A, 447th Sig. Bn.	9	4	Co. B, 551st Sig. Bn.	2	4
Co. B, 442nd Sig. Bn.	6	5			
White Division					
206th Mil. Int.	10	1	31st Intel Squadron	7	3
DENTAC	10	1	Co. B, 551st Sig Bn.	7	2
Co. A, 73rd Ord. Bn.	8	3	EAMC	3	7
35th MP Det.	4	7	Navy IOC	7	2
Co. B, 73rd Ord. Bn.	2	9	Co. C, 73rd Ord. Bn.	3	6
			Co. D, 551st Sig. Bn.	1	8

Spectrum



Soldiers rock the post with music and dance

Charmain Z. Brackett
Contributing writer

To get the best seats for the U.S. Army Soldier Show, Renee Martinez knows she has to arrive early.

"We always come both nights. We think the last night is the best," said Martinez, who arrived for Saturday's 8 p.m. show at Alexander Hall at 6:30 p.m. With her were her sons, Jemir, 15, and Travis, 10.

"They blow it out," said Travis. "They use all of their energy."

The two boys are fans of the Soldier Show, having seen the last five.

Jemir said he liked how the singers "made old songs new."

Saturday's 90-minute show was packed with old and new songs from the disco-boogie "Car Wash" to the mix of Usher's "Caught Up" and Ciara's "One, Two Step." Other selections included, "Georgia On My Mind," "Hit the Road Jack," "Red Neck Woman," "Against All Odds," and "Rich Girl."

The show had a theme of Operation America Cares and a thread running throughout the production was about the importance of mail and CARE packages.

Not only were the Soldiers' vocal and dance abilities highlighted, but a few performers added their own special talents such as baton twirling and acrobatics.

Humor was added to the mix as well.

During one portion of the program, a "CARE package" arrived containing music and costumes. The Soldiers receiving it decided to stage a Soldier Show within a Soldier Show using three camouflage ponchos strung together as a curtain.

Three singers placed their heads through the hanging curtain and sang Queen's Bohemian Rhapsody.

Fort Gordon's Sgt. Tony Cooper probably won the friendly rivalry among his cast mates for best audience response from a home crowd.

Cooper, whose family came from Fayetteville, N.C. to view the show, received an overwhelming response of applause and cheers during his selections and his introduction at show's end.

Cooper was featured on several pieces including the Usher song "Caught Up," John Legend's "Ordinary People," Queen's "Bohemian Rhapsody" and The Killers' "Somebody Told Me."

Ironically, said the singer who has a soulful gospel sound, his favorite piece in the show was the hard rock song of The Killers.

"I've yet to understand the words," he conceded, but he said he liked the feel of the song.

The greatest audience reaction came from the feeling he injected into "Ordinary People."

Toward the show's end, Brig. Gen. Randolph Strong, Fort Gordon's commanding general and chief of Signal, came on stage to receive a plaque from the cast and crew of the show.

"They do an incredible job," he said.

He pointed out that not only was a Fort Gordon Soldier represented, but there were four Signal Soldiers in the cast as well.